

## FAST FACTS

### **Title I and the Required Student Performance Strategist in Grades K-3**

#### **The Requirement**

The 2009 North Dakota legislative session incorporated funding for and mandated that each district have one (1) full FTE student performance strategist for every 400 K-3 students (NDCC 15.1-07-32). This requirement went into effect during the 2010-2011 school year. Funding for this position must be paid from local school district funds (i.e., state aid).

#### **Duties of the Student Performance Strategist**

The NDCC states that schools have two options available to them when assigning duties/responsibilities to their student performance strategist.

1. Schools may use their student performance strategist as a tutor. A tutor is defined as a licensed teacher who works with students one-on-one or in small groups. Many schools are not able to assist all students who may need with through the Title I program and this new student performance strategist could greatly assist with tutoring these students who are in need of additional help.
2. Some schools receive a significant amount of Title I funds and may be able to adequately assist all students needing extra help. The state law does address this scenario. Section 15.1-07-32 states that an elementary school may hire a tutor (i.e., student performance strategist) or an instructional coach. Therefore, schools have an option of using their required FTE for an instructional coach, if they prefer. An instructional coach is defined as a staff member performing assigned activities relating to supporting teachers and others in the school/district through on site professional development that enhances teaching skills and assists teachers in applying new knowledge. This individual works with staff only, not students.

#### **How does this position relate to Title I?**

Since the requirement of the student performance strategist is in state law, districts cannot use Title I paid staff to meet this requirement, as that would be supplanting. If a school has a very small FTE requirement for the student performance strategist and there is no one on staff who could assume the role, the school could reduce their Title I teacher's FTE time and have the Title I teacher assume the student performance strategist responsibilities. These percentages would have to be documented on the district's Title I consolidated application. Additionally, time and effort would need to be documented. The individual's student performance strategist time must be paid from local school district funds and Title I time paid with Title I funds.

Outlined below is a comparison of Title I targeted assistance, Title I schoolwide, and the student performance strategist requirements.

	Title I Targeted	Title I Schoolwide	Student Performance Strategist
Title I Credential Required	Yes	Depends on the job description	No
Student Selection Process	Yes	No	No
Grade Levels Served	Locally decided PreK-12 available	Locally decided PreK-12 available	K-3
Subjects	Reading and Math	Reading and Math	All
Parent Involvement Requirements	Yes	Yes	No
Additional Assessments Required to Measure Progress	Yes	No	No

#### **How is this requirement reviewed?**

Districts are required to submit student performance strategist to the department through STARS. In this report, the district will indicate the staff fulfilling the student performance strategist position, the amount of time that each student performance strategist expended in tutoring students on a one-to-one basis or in groups ranging from two to five, or in providing instructional coaching to teachers.

Title I has become aware of potential supplanting violations with regard to the student performance strategist position and using federally paid Title I personnel to fulfill the state requirement. Therefore, during the summer months, the Office of Federal Title Programs will conduct a monitoring of this requirement as it relates to Title I. We will work with all districts found out of compliance during the review of the subsequent year's consolidated application.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact the Division of Student Support & Innovation at (888) 605-1951.